

ABSTRACT

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A telephone data collection device used to collect call detail information from a
4 telephone system with a network data port establishes a network data connection with the
telephone system, collects call detail information from the telephone system and transfers
6 the data to a host computer for processing. That host computer need not be
reprogrammed to be compatible with the network-enabled telephone system, but may
8 instead use legacy methods to poll or receive the call detail information from the device.
Data may be collected from more than one network-enabled telephone system and
10 transferred to one or more host computers through a reliable network path through a
combination of serial data ports, a network, and the telephone PSTN. The data
12 collection device stores call detail records and other information collected from a
network-enabled telephone system in the data memory of the data collection device,
14 which data is then transferred to a host using data transfer methods and protocols that are
compatible with legacy systems, without requiring reprogramming of the hosts. The data
16 collection device may collect data from a number of network-enabled telephone systems,
store this data in the data memory of the data collection device and then provide the
18 collected data to one or more hosts. It may also evaluate that data in order to detect alarm
conditions reported by or existing with the network-enabled telephone system and then
20 transmit alarm reports to a host.

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